FORM NO. 51-4AA

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

CLASSIFICATION

SECRET

SECURITY INFORMATION

INFORMATION REPORT

25X1

25X1

CD NO.

COUNTRY USSR(Lithuanian SSR) DATE DISTR.

22 May 1952

SUBJECT Conditions on Collective Farms

in the Lithuanian SSR

NO. OF PAGES

NO. OF ENCLS.

DATE OF INFO.

25XPLACE ACQUIRED

Prior to May 1951

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

25X1

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES, WITHIN THE MEANING OF TITLE 18, SECTIONS 793 AND 794, OF THE U.S. CODE, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR REVE-LATION OF ITS CONTENTS TO OR RECEIPT BY AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS THE REPRODUCTION OF THIS FORM IS PROHIBITED

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

25X1

- Recruitment of farmers into collective farms usually occurs in the spring. Only those who have possessions can enter a collective farm; those who have nothing are not accepted, even though the shortage of labor is very acute. The Lithuanian farmers are very angry because the Soviet Lithuanian press calls their joining voluntary, whereas they actually despise the collective farm system. The so-called voluntary joining of a collective farm occurs in the following manner: the local Executive Committee Chairman and the local Communist Party Secretary come to the farmer and present for his signature a printed affidavit declaring that he is voluntarily pledging himself to work conscientiously for the benefit of the collective farm and is bringing all his movable and immovable assets, the entire inventory of which is specified in detail, The following items are kept by such a volunteer farmer: one cow. one pig, several chickens, and forty furrows (sic) of land (until spring 1951, it was sixty furrows) from which he must feed himself. On the land received from the state, the farmer is allowed to plant vegetables, potatoes, and sugar beets. Clover cannot be planted. A farmer can work his own land only on Sundays or at night, though he frequently works on the collective farm until 10 or 10:30 p.m.
- Since fall 1950, when strong propaganda was begun for larger collective farms, the rate of payment to the state for land kept by the individual farmer was markedly increased. In the spring of 1951, a farmer working on a collective farm had to deliver to the state the following items for the forty furrows left to him: 310 liters of milk or 25 kg of butter, 45 kg of pork, 40 kg of potatoes, 500 eggs for every 10 chickens, 10 kg of onions, and 1,500 rubles in land taxes (sic). In areas where the land is not productive, a farmer may receive only 200 grams of grain for each workday on the collective. This grain

CLASSIFICATION

SECRET

E EE	x	NAVY	x	NSRB		DISTRIBUTION						,	
	x	AIR	x	FBI									

25X1

SECRET

-2-

is issued after the harvest and consists of the profest quality grain, frequently rye, barley, or various mixtures. Thus, the food problem for a collective farmer is very real.

- 3. The collective farm is managed by an elected chairman who has control over all work brigades and over the bookkeeper. However, the actual head of the collective farm is a Russian, commonly called <u>podpolkovnik</u> (lieutenant-colonel), who is the local agent of the Ministry of Agriculture. What should be planted, where, and how much is really decided not by the collective farm chairman but by the podpolkovnik.
- h. Work on the collective farm starts early in the morning at the sound of a gong, as few workers have watches. A gong also sounds a pause for lunch at 12 noon and signals the end of work. Workdays are counted according to the type of work done. Shepherds, grooms, swineherds, tractor operators, and in the summertime peat diggers have one workday counted as two. However, on the collective farm the deciding factor is often not the work done but good relations with the chairman of the kolkhoz and the accountant, who is responsible for estimating workdays. If relations with these officials are bad, only half or a third of the days worked will be counted and the farmer will have to beg and starve the entire year.
- 5. Besides the chairman, the accountant and the brigadier are also elected by the collective farm. Elections are held on the holiday commemorating the establishment of the collective farm and are rigged by the raion Communist Party Secretary and local Executive Committee Chairman, who designate who should be elected to the above-mentioned positions.
- 6. The shortage of labor is very great, and a large portion of the harvest is left unharvested. For example, because of the shortage of labor in the fall of 1950, 80 hectares of potatoes on a collective farm near Juskaiciai were not dug up in time and the barley and sugar beets were not brought in. The farm chairman explained that the kolkhoz would not suffer any loss from these crops not having been harvested, since it would now be unnecessary to fertilize the ground in the spring. Also, because of the shortage of labor in fall 1950, large areas of land were left unploughed despite the fact that all tractor operators in the Zagare Raion were authorized to plough at night by floodlight. In the spring of 1951, work in the fields was begun very late, as the winter was very long and hard and the fields were covered with more than a meter of snow. Because of the cold and shortage of feed, many cows, pigs, and horses perished.
- 7. All those who are forced into collective farms receive certain identification credentials which take the place of a passport for them. If a collective farm member wishes to travel, he must fill out a printed form given him by the farm chairman on which the traveler must show where, when, how, and for what purpose he is traveling. On the basis of these facts, the collective farm chairman writes out a travel certificate in the Russian language. A member of a kolkhoz cannot transfer to a factory because his collective farm entrance pledge will not permit him to change his profession.

25×1	1.	Comment	Probably	ares	
,, .			•		1

SECRET